

AMENDMENTS

A. IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following rewritten claims as follows:

2. (Amended) An isolated polynucleotide sequence encoding the growth differentiation factor-16 (GDF-16) polypeptide as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2.

3. (Amended) An isolated polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:

- a) SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein T can also be U;
- b) nucleic acid sequences complementary to SEQ ID NO: 1;
- c) fragments of a) or b) that are at least 15 bases in length and that will identify a DNA sequence which encodes a GDF-16 polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 2 by hybridization; and
- d) SEQ ID NO: 1.